Science City for Punjab

2409. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL : Will the MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the proposed features of the Science City planned for Punjab near Jalandhar;

(b) whether there is any built in provision, so that it influences the life of the villages in close proximity materially; and

(c) by when, the Science City is likely to ready for dedication to the people?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The proposed Science City will include modules of space odyssey, dynamotion, evolution, cyberspace and a convention centre consisting of auditorium and seminar halls, apart from administrative complex.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) First phase of the Science City, which also includes space odyssey hall and gate complex, is expected to be completed by June, 2002.

Yatri Niwas in Arunachal Pradesh

2410. SHRI NABAM REBIA : Will the MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for setting up of Yatri Niwas in Arunachal Pradesh during 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(c) the details of the funds allocated by Government for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Development of tourist infrastructure is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administration Department of Tourism, Government of India, however, provides some financial assistance for tourism projects prioritized in consultation with them every year.

(b) Construction of a Yatri Niwas at Roing in Arunachal Pradesh has been prioritized during the current financial year.

(c) Estimated Central component of this project is Rs. 56.00 lakhs.

Promotion of Heritage hotels in Arunachal Pradesh

2411. SHRI NABAM REBIA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are encouraging promotion of Heritage hotels in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the location-wise details thereof; and

(c) the details of such hotels set up in the State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Tourism encourages the promotion of Heritage hotels in the country including the State of Arunachal Pradesh and has formulated guidelines for approval of Heritage hotels at project stage as well as the guidelines for classification of operational Heritage hotels. Heritage hotels both at project and at operational stage are eligible for various incentives including income tax exemptions, interest subsidy on loan taken from TFCI, IFCI, IDBI, ICICI, SIDBI, State Financial Corporation and State Industrial Corporation, concessional custom duty, import of special items etc.

(b) So far, no application for approval of any Heritage hotel at project stage or for the classification of an operational hotel under Heritage category has been received from the State of Arunachal Pradesh.

(c) Does not arise.

Losses suffered by ITDC

2412. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while on the one hand ITDC is running into substantial losses, its senior officials have been unauthorisedly occupying rooms and luxury suites in the city's ITDC hotels;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) the estimated annual loss, additional loss suffered by ITDC as a result thereof, and